# National Youth Science Forum (NYSF)

Inspiring young Australians to futures in science since 1984





### What is NYSF?

A series of programs running across the year

- the January Sessions Canberra and Perth
- Next Step
- International Program
- Staff Leadership Training
- Indigenous Program
- National Science Teachers Summer School







# Who attends the January Sessions?

- ✓ students just entering Year 12
- ✓ contemplating a career in the sciences
- ✓ wide range of interests
- √ good communicators





# Where do students come from? (1/2)

450 students selected annually by founding partners Rotary.

Regional quotas in various Rotary Districts guarantee equal representation from the city and the bush.







# Where do students come from? (2/2)

Over 600 volunteers on 62 Selection Committees interview students around the country. In 2013, 1,300 students applied.

2014 - also host international students from Germany, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, Brazil.







### When are the Sessions held?

**Session A** Canberra

Monday 5 – Saturday 17 January 2015

Session B Perth

Monday 12 – Saturday 24 January 2015

### Session C Canberra

Monday 19 – Saturday 31 January 2015











# Our current partners















































## Rotary – Founding Partners

- Supports quality programs developing young people
- Provides national spread for selections





# Rotary







### What happens at the January Sessions?

- Laboratory visits (Canberra or Perth)
- Keynote addresses and workshops
- Debates and forums
- Science Dinners
- Socialising
- Networking
- Live on site at university campus with your own room







### Laboratory visits







### ...workshops and seminars







### networking, science dinners and socialising



# ...and time to do the washing too









# Goal setting



- Students develop job applications prior to Sessions.
- Interviews
  conducted for the
  role while at
  January Sessions.





# NYSF does not finish in January





### **Next Step Program**





NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE FORUM





## **NYSF International Program**

Open exclusively to NYSF students.

There are 40+ places available annually in 7 different programs.

Applications close in late February.

In 2013 our students travelled to...









### Canada Wide Science Fair

International Science Summer School (Heidelberg, Germany)







Research Science Institute at MIT (Boston, USA)





# London International Youth Science Forum

National Youth Science Week (Pretoria, South Africa)







Stockholm International Youth Science Seminar









The Euroscience Open Forum, Copenhagen







### Indigenous Youth Science Forum

Launched October 2011 in Perth

Some students attended NYSF in 2012 and 2013.

October 2013 24 students from remote WA will attend 5-day program in Perth. Four of last year's students will return as mentors.



IYSF is sponsored by Rio Tinto, IBM and Defence Science & Technology Organisation and supported by The University of Western Australia, Curtin University, the Department of Education (WA), the Polly Farmer Foundation, and the Chem Centre.







### National Science Teachers Summer School



...a joint initiative with the **Australian Science Teachers Association**, and proudly supported by the Australian National University



### Our alumni

- Since 1984, almost 9,000 students have attended
- Alumni remain engaged with NYSF through communication activities, and social media
- We encourage Alumni to connect with each other via NYSF activities



### A recent alumni survey

- Going to NYSF significantly widens the study choices that students make at university.
- NYSF alumni have a higher chance of getting university scholarships than their non-alumni peers.
- NYSF alumni are more likely to complete their university undergraduate and post-graduate studies.
- NYSF students love the networks and social links that the program builds.



# Tanya Ha



NYSF 1989

- Presenter ABC-TV's "Catalyst",
- SBS Series "Eco House Challenge";
- Author, Environmental Campaigner



# James Moody



NYSF 1993



#### James Moody in 2013:

- PhD Electrical Engineering (UNSW)
- ABC-TV "The New Inventors"
- Executive Director, Development, CSIRO



# Sarah Don



**NYSF 2008** 



#### Sarah Don in 2013:

- 5<sup>th</sup> year BSc in Nuclear Science and Engineering at MIT (Boston)
- Licensed operator of MIT's research reactor